

Remarks:

In response to the Official Action of October 8, 2003, the applicant has amended the specification to correct those errors identified by the Examiner. Applicant has also introduced a new paragraph between the second and third paragraphs on page 4, between lines 14 and 15. This new paragraph is essentially a reproduction of the text existing at the top of page 2 of the specification, but with the addition of reference numerals to reference Figure 1. The introduced text is a description of an unsatisfactory, hypothetical structure, and not a description of the claimed invention. With this addition, and the other changes to the specification, any lack of coordination between the specification and drawings has been eliminated. Applicant submits herewith formal drawings that fully comply with the Patent Office requirements that should be substituted for the existing informal drawings.

Applicant has noted the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. In view of that indication, applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter previously found in claim 2, which was indicated to be allowable. Claim 4 is amended to merely modify the dependency of the claim so that claim 4 as well as claims 5-15 are dependent directly or indirectly from amended claim 1. In view of the Examiner's remarks referencing *Ex Parte Masham*, claims 1 and 6 have been amended to eliminate that portion of the claim recitation that merely reflects the manner of intended use. Claims 1 and 4-15 are now in proper form for allowance.


Applicant has also amended claim 16 to incorporate the subject matter previously found in claim 17, which was indicated to be allowable. Again, in view of the Examiner's remarks referencing *Ex Parte Masham*, claim 16 has been amended to eliminate that portion of the claim recitation that merely reflects the manner of intended use. Claims 18-20 are amended to merely modify the dependency of the claims so that claims 18 and 19 as well as 20-25 are dependent

directly or indirectly from amended claim 16. Claims 16 and 18-25 are now in proper form for allowance.

Applicant also presents new claims 26-33 for consideration. Claim 26 is a restatement of original claim 1 incorporating the subject matter of original claim 10, and any necessary recitation taken from any intervening claim, which was indicated to be allowable. Claims 27-32 are dependent directly or indirectly from new claim 26. Claim 33 is a restatement of original claim 1 incorporating the subject matter of original claim 11, and any necessary recitation taken from any intervening claim, which was indicated to be allowable. Both of claims 26 and 33 omit any portion of the original recitation that merely reflects the manner of intended use in view of the Examiner's remarks referencing *Ex Parte Masham*. Claims 26-33 are also in proper form for allowance.

Since the applicant has merely retained claims indicated by the Examiner to be allowable, no comments on the prior art of record are believed to be necessary. With this amendment and the submission of substitute drawings conforming to the requirements of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, this application is ready to be passed to issue. While a check accompanies this amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or defect, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account # 23-1925.

Respectfully submitted,


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